Robert W. Holst, Ph.D.
Program Manager
Conservation & Compliance

SERDP
Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program
Improving Mission Readiness Through Environmental Research

The Vision

"…propose a Strategic Environmental Research Program…"

"…we have an opportunity to redirect this tremendous national resource toward the environmental challenges we face in the 1990's…"

"…facilitate transfer of knowledge gained and technology developed…"

Sen. Sam Nunn — Senate Floor Speech, June 28, 1990

SERDP
Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program
Improving Mission Readiness Through Environmental Research

FY 1991 Defense Authorization Act

- **Established SERDP**
  - **DoD, DOE and U.S. EPA partnership**
- **Purposes**
  - **Address DoD and DOE environmental concerns through R&D**
  - **Share data collection and analysis capabilities**
  - **Identify and share DoD research technology**
  - **Identify private sector technologies useful to DoD**
- **Organization and Procedures**
  - **Council**
  - **Executive Director**
  - **Scientific Advisory Board**

Environmental Quality Taxonomy

UXO

POLLUTION PREVENTION

CLEANUP

COMPLIANCE

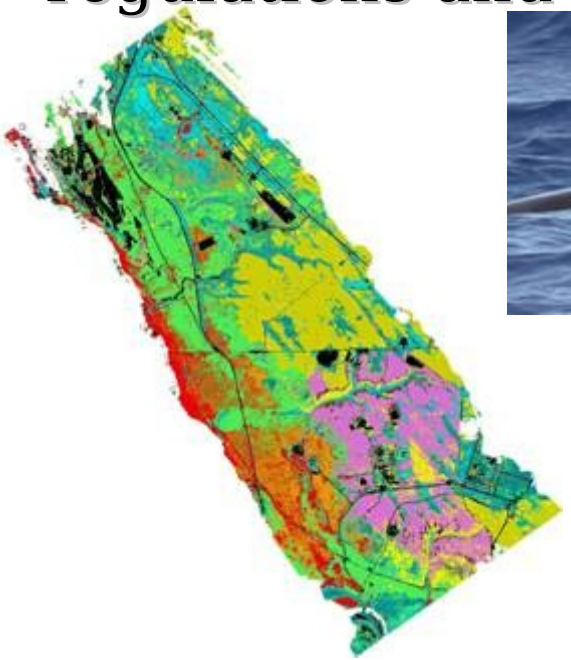
CONSERVATION

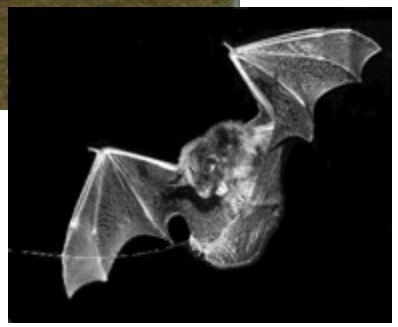
SERDP
Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program
Improving Mission Readiness Through Environmental Research

CONSERVATION

Mission

To conserve, protect, enhance, and manage the natural and cultural resources under DoD control as consistent with its military mission, while simultaneously complying with all laws and regulations and providing optimal use of those





Military Readiness and Ecosystem Sustain

- The U.S. Department of Defense conducts training and testing on over **25 million acres of land** and in, on and over **adjoining waters**
- More space is needed to support the **expanding footprint** for testing and training with emerging military vehicles and weapon systems
- Management requiring a **challenging balance** between mission requirements and resource stewardship
- Key questions
  - Role of Defense installations in regional ecosystem planning
  - Unique research questions regarding ecosystem management: sustainable use dynamics, scale and patterns of disturbance, thresholds of mission impacts, nutrient dynamics and relative productivity
  - Resolving competing national goals: military readiness and stewardship

SERDP's Environmental Management Project (SEMP)

- Ecosystems Workshop in June 1997 identified needs to monitor and evaluate ecosystems as may be affected by military activity
  - Biological Diversity
  - Ecosystem health – long-term monitoring, thresholds, indices, disturbance
- SEMP Begun in 1998 as a result of workshop
- Fort Benning (SW GA) selected to be initial test site
- Application to other installations and adjoining lands, especially along "Sand Hills - Fall Line" between Piedmont and Coastal Plain

Military Readiness and Ecosystem Sustain

Session

- **Introduction** – Dr. Robert Holst, Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program (SERDP), Office of Secretary of Defense
- **Managing Ecosystems for Multiple Species of Concern**
  Dr. Rebecca Sharitz, Savannah River Ecological Laboratory
- **Ecological Indicators Related to Military Land Management**
  Dr. Virginia Dale and Dr. Pat Mulholland, Aaron Peacock, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- **Community and Installation Dynamics: Planning Together for Sustainable Futures**
  Mr. William Goran, ERDC-CERL and Mr. John Brent, Fort Benning
- **Ecosystem Management Partnerships Involving Defense**
  Dr. John Hall, The Nature Conservancy and Dr. Doug

SERDP
Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program
Improving Mission Readiness Through Environmental Research

ESTCP

Sponsored by SERDP and ESTCP

Partners in Environmental Technology

Technical Symposium and Workshop

December 2 - December 4, 2003

Marriott Wardman Park Hotel
Washington, D.C.

Home Pages

http://www.serdp.org

http://www.estcp.org